



BAPTIST INFORMER

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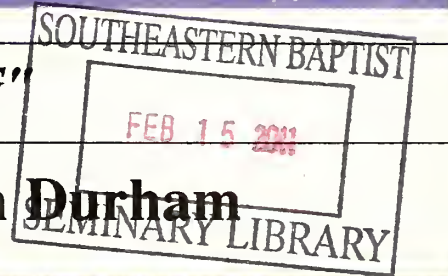
Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.

Dec.-Jan. 2011

GBSC THEME

"PREACHING...TEACHING...REACHING"

Matthew 28:19-20



Judges Honored at MLK Annual Banquet in Durham

Staff Reports

RALEIGH, N.C. - Three notable North Carolina jurists were recently honored by the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina at its 2011 Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Banquet.

Honorees receiving the 2011 President's Award of Distinction were Judge Cheri L. Beasley of the North Carolina Court of Appeals; Judge Wanda G. Bryant, an associate judge on the North Carolina Court of Appeals; and Judge Cressie H. Thigpen, Jr. of the North Carolina Court of Appeals.



Reverend Dr. Howard W. Parker, Jr.

The banquet, held on January 7 at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel and Conference Center in Durham, attracted about 850 people from across the state.

It was the first event of the administration of the Reverend Dr. Howard W. Parker, Jr., president of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

Banquet speaker was the Reverend Dr. Charles B. Jackson, Sr., pastor of Brookland Baptist Church in West



Judges of the North Carolina Court of Appeals who are members of General Baptist congregations were honored. From left to right, Judge Cressie H. Thigpen, Jr. (Christian Faith Baptist Church, Raleigh), Judge Wanda G. Bryant (Cedar Grove Baptist Church, Supply), and Judge Cheri L. Beasley (First Baptist Church, Fayetteville).

Columbia, South Carolina, one of the fastest growing churches in the state.

Others on the program included: The Rev. Frederick A. Davis, host pastor, First Calvary in Durham; the Rev. Haywood T. Gray, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of GBSC; the Rev. Eddie R. White, III, host church representative; Dr. Ricky L. Banks, second vice president; Dr. Leonzo

D. Lynch, first vice president, Dr. Linda W. Bryan, WBH&FMC Executive Secretary-Treasurer; the Rev. Lamont J. Johnson; Dr. J. Vincent Terry, Sr., third vice president; Dr. Nilous M. Avery, vice president-at-large assisting President Parker; Rev. O.D. Sykes, fourth vice president, Bethany Wherry of Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church in Charlotte

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Our 143rd Year

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1867 - 2010



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Music Consortium Theme Examining the Brokenness of Church Music:

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Conference Preachers, Lecturers & Clinicians

Dr. Haywood T. Gray, Raleigh, North Carolina

Dr. Cleophus J. LaRue, Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, New Jersey

Dr. Teresa Fry Brown, Chandler School of Theology & Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia

Dr. John W. Kinney, School of Theology, Virginia Union University, Richmond, Virginia

Dr. Charles Mosley, Sr., Asheville, North Carolina

Dr. Ricky L. Banks, Elizabeth City, North Carolina

Pastor Clarence J. LeMay, Nash County, North Carolina

Dr. Linda W. Bryan, Raleigh, North Carolina

Pastor Spencer Woods, Alton, Virginia

Dr. Moses Goldman, Raleigh, North Carolina

Reverend Anthonette Wright, Raleigh, North Carolina

Dr. Lonieta Thompson Cornwall, Raleigh, North Carolina

Pastor LaMont J. Johnson, Rockingham, North Carolina

Pastor Quientrell L. Burrell, Weldon, North Carolina

Minister Jamaine Smith, Kannapolis, North Carolina

Mr. James Lyle, Raleigh, North Carolina

Mrs. Tiffany B. Cornelous, Raleigh, North Carolina

Dr. Reginald High, Raleigh, North Carolina

Pastor Reginald Barnes, New Bern, North Carolina

Early Conference Registration: \$150

After March 7, 2011 - On Site Registration: \$200

For more information contact Dr. Rudolph Tripp, Director of Continuing Education

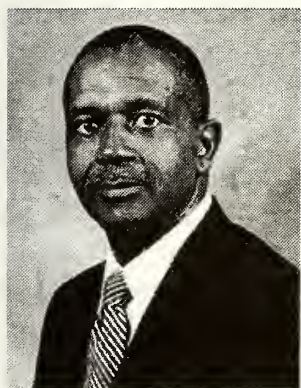
919-546-8575 office and 919-302-3592 mobile

Dr. Jackson: “We Need Difference- Makers”

By E. O. Johnson/The BAPTIST INFORMER

People brave enough to reach across the racial, social, economic and political divide are needed to do real ministry in 21st century America.

That’s a message from the Rev. Dr. Charles B. Jackson, Sr., one of the central



voices in today’s urban ministry landscape. “Real ministry isn’t what happens on Sunday mornings. Real ministry is facing the challenges. Real ministry is speaking out. Real

ministry needs difference makers,” he told an audience of about 850 people at the MLK Banquet in January.

As pastor of the Brookland Baptist Church in West Columbia, South

Carolina, Dr. Jackson has been reaching across those gaps and working to make a difference in the theological trenches for nearly four decades. Today, his congregation is one of the fastest growing churches in South Carolina. Its 2,300-seat sanctuary was completed in 1999 and in 2005, they added a 68,000 square-

“What we need are more ‘difference-makers’ who are committed, strong and fortified.”

foot Community Resource Center. It includes an Academy Child Development Center, a Health and Wellness Center and a Banquet and Conference Center.

Being a “difference-maker” in ministry, he said, means that church members must embrace and celebrate their gifts and talents to uplift others, especially young people who need role models in communities.

“Stop player-hating and being jealous,” Dr. Jackson said to shouts of “amen.” “Reach out and help someone else. We can’t collectively advance if we

keep being jealous of each other. Not everybody has everything, but everybody has something.”

During his address, Dr. Jackson noted that he was “concerned about the racial divide” in the United States, especially since the historic election of President Barack Obama. It seems to be wider now, he said, than it was before the 2008 election.

He challenged members of the audience to re-evaluate the state of affairs of their communities, especially in light of the 2010 mid-term elections, when many incumbents lost their seats in the rising tide of political unrest surrounding issues such as health care reform and immigration. Now is not the time to rest on the past victories, but to move forward, he said.

“It’s time to get smart,” he said. “Have you taken a look at the economic situation lately? How many black businesses are surviving and thriving? All other ethnic groups can thrive, but we still have difficulties. The questions becomes can you maintain what you’ve attained.”

(Continued on page 6)

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(Continued from page 1)

provided musical selections.

Highlights of the honorees:

Judge Beasley, a member of First Baptist, Fayetteville, was selected to the court in 2008. She is the first black woman to win election to statewide office in North Carolina without first being appointed by a governor. Beasley previously served as a state district court judge, serving District 12 (Cumberland). She was appointed to the bench by Gov. Jim Hunt

in 1999, and then elected in a 2002 election. She was re-elected without opposition in 2006.

Judge Bryant, a member of Cedar Grove in Supply, N.C., was appointed to the North Carolina Court of Appeals in 2001 by Gov. Mike Easley. In 2004, she was elected to an eight year term on the NC Court of Appeals (expiring in 2012).

Judge Thigpen, a member of Christian Faith in Raleigh, was appointed to a seat

on the North Carolina Court of Appeals in 2010 by Gov. Bev Perdue. He served as a special superior court judge from May 2008 until his appointment to the Court of Appeals. Previously, he was a partner in the law firm now known as Blue, Stephens & Fellers. He has practiced law for 30 years. In 1999, he was elected president of the state bar – the first African-American to hold that post.

Bread for the World Campaigns to Increase U.S. Foreign Aid

From Press Release

Washington, DC - Bread for the World has launched its 2011 Offering of Letters campaign to urge Congress to reform U.S. foreign assistance so it is more effective and benefits hungry and poor people globally.

"The main driver of poverty reduction in the world is the hard work of poor people themselves. Given the opportunity to improve their communities and provide a better life for their children, they will seize it," said Rev. David Beckmann, president of Bread for the World. "We

need to make sure U.S. foreign aid reaches those who need it most, and that it supports their efforts to lift their communities out of poverty."

More effective aid matters to poor countries, such as Haiti and Liberia. For example, Haiti is struggling to recover from long-standing poverty made worse by the 2010 earthquake. Similarly, the people of Liberia are emerging from two devastating civil wars that left many more deeply impoverished.

"These problems cannot be overcome quickly, but more effective U.S. assistance will make a big difference as Haitians and Liberians—and people in many other developing countries—increase their capacity and infrastructure so they can become self-sufficient and build a better future for themselves," said Bishop Don Dixon Williams, racial/eth-

nic outreach associate at Bread for the World.

Bread for the World seeks these changes:

- A stronger U.S. government focus on reducing poverty.
- Clearer accountability for how U.S. aid dollars are spent and their results.
- A transformed U.S. development agency.
- U.S. aid that meets the needs and wants of local people.

Bread For The World is a Christian-based organization focusing on alleviating hunger in the United States and abroad. The organization is based in Washington, DC, but has regional offices across the country. For more information about Bread For The World, visit www.bread.org/ol.

HKonJ MARCH, RALLY IN RALEIGH TO FOCUS ON JOBS AND EDUCATION

From Press Release



Reverend Dr. William
J. Barber, II

RALEIGH, NC – Thousands are expected to gather at Shaw University on Saturday, February 12, 2011 and march to the State Legislature on Jones Street to protest the re-segregation of public schools, call for education instead of imprisonment, and demand good jobs and schools.

The 4th Annual HKonJ (Historic Thousands on Jones Street) March and Assembly will begin at Estey Hall (on the

campus of Shaw University) beginning at 9:30 a.m. for the march and rally, beginning at 11:00 a.m., at 16 W. Jones St. in downtown Raleigh.

Featured speakers will include the Reverend Dr. William J. Barber, II, president of the NC Conference of NAACP, North Carolina civil rights and civic leaders and a special audio message from NAACP President and CEO Benjamin Todd Jealous.

"This is one of the most exciting movements I've seen across the country," said NAACP President and CEO Benjamin Todd Jealous. "The agenda-based coalition, led by the NAACP State Conference, should be replicated across the country. We cannot in good moral conscience separate the struggle for diverse and superior education from the struggle for jobs and economic solutions."

"On one hand, we must expose that the ultra right wing race baiting re-segregation strategy is a cynical attempt to play upon people's vulnerability to division as they struggle for jobs," said North Carolina NAACP State Conference President Rev. William J. Barber II. "On the other hand, we must demand recognition that the economic crisis in the African American and poor communities existed before recent crisis was acknowledge by the larger society and must be addressed."

WHAT: 4TH Annual HKonJ
WHEN: 9:30-Noon, Feb. 12, 2011
WHERE: Estey Hall, Shaw University to State Legislature on Jones Street, Raleigh
INFO: (919) 682-4700 or www.HKonJ.org

**Visit the General Baptist State Convention
on Facebook for Regular Updates on Happenings
Around the State, Event Photos, and More!**

<http://www.facebook.com/GBSCNC>



New Christian Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

Pastoral Search

- The New Christian Chapel Missionary Baptist Church family is presently in need of a pastor.
- The congregation moved into the new church building 1st Sunday, August 1st, 2010, but the church has been a solid fixture in the area since the original church was built in 1943.
- New Christian Chapel is located in a rural community in Duplin County at 2283 South NC 11 Highway, Rose Hill, North Carolina.
- The last census of 2000 listed 1,392 people in the Rose Hill area and 53,988 people in Duplin County.
- We have church every Sunday. Our membership is approximately 350 active members.

Brief Church Highlights:

- Currently the church Youth Choir has approximately 25 to 30 youth.
- The Youth Ushers number approximately 12.
- We have a strong active male membership and a widely known Male Choir that is approximately 28 strong.

Interested parties may send a resume to
New Christian Chapel Missionary Baptist Church,
P O Box 970, Rose Hill, NC 28458.

More information can be found about our church at our website:
<http://www.newchristianchapel.com>

Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church

4320 Doc Bennett Road, Fayetteville, NC 283-6

Pastoral Vacancy

Opening Date: February 1, 2011

Closing Date: March 31, 2011

Basic qualifications:

- **Age 40- 50 • Ministering minimum of 6 years**
- **Married • Some seminary training**

Send resumes to: Pastoral Search Committee
P.O. Box 1184, Hope Mills, NC 28348

St. James Missionary Baptist Church

P.O. Box 2323, Rocky Mount, NC 27802

Phone: (252) 442-2318

email: stjamesmbc@embarqmail.com

Pastoral Vacancy

Job Description: Senior Pastor/Teacher

Position Purpose:

The pastor will serve the church body. He shall have primary preaching and teaching responsibilities and assist with the public and regular services of a predominately African-American congregation.

Required Qualifications:

- Must be a licensed and ordained minister
- Agrees with and teaches in conformance with church doctrinal statement
- Relates well to all people of the body including the sick and the shut-in
- Possesses a strong biblical knowledge
- Is an excellent expositor of the scriptures
- Exemplifies the qualifications described in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9

Preferred Qualifications:

- A gifted teacher who enables people to learn and understand deep spiritual truths
- An effective communicator of well-prepared sermons
- A person who emphasizes evangelism and spiritual growth
- A person with a leadership vision and a well-developed vision for the future of the church
- A person who communicates well with youth
- Seminary trained with five years or more in previous role(s) as pastor or pastor/teacher

Contact: Saint James Missionary Baptist Church
Clyde Brake, Search Committee Chairman (252) 452-9705

**Upcoming: A two-part series of feature
articles on the process of "Selecting A
Pastor in the Baptist Church"
written by E.O. Johnson.**

**Watch for future issues of the
Baptist Informer!**

African-American Baptists increase Haitian Aid to \$1 million

By Bob Allen
American Baptist Press

WASHINGTON (ABP) -- Five historically African-American Baptist denominations that collaborated last year for Haiti relief made a second grant of \$500,000 on Jan. 12 to build homes through Habitat for Humanity International.

Announced on the one-year anniversary of the Haiti quake, the grant increased to \$1 million the amount of money raised by the African-American Baptist Mission Collaboration.

Presidents of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention; National Baptist Convention, USA; National

Baptist Convention of America; National Missionary Baptist Convention of America; and Progressive National Baptist Convention decided shortly after the Jan. 12, 2010, earthquake to pool resources of more than 10 million Baptists in the United States.

In June the presidents presented a first \$500,000 check to Habitat, the largest faith-based donation Habitat had received for Haiti relief.

"Our commitment to help our brothers and sisters in Haiti continues with this contribution," David Emmanuel Goatley, coordinator with AABMC and executive secretary-treasurer of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, said in a press release.

Raised within the first year, the combined \$1 million in gifts represents the first step toward a five year-goal of raising \$50 million to rebuild lives of those devastated by the earthquake.

"We are just getting started in earnest with our assistance, and this partnership

with Habitat for Humanity is one part of a variety of investments our network is making in support to churches, clinics, schools and families," Goatley said.

The initial funding supported the construction of transitional shelters to help meet basic needs of more than 1,600 Haitians in Cabaret. Julius Scruggs, president of the National Baptist Convention, USA, said the second installment will be used in Leogane to fund more than 80 housing solutions, which includes materials, construction, site preparation, water, sanitation, training, community engagement and access to basic infrastructure such as roads, schools and churches.

"As Christians we are committed to helping our fellow man," said Stephen John Thurston, president of the National Baptist Convention of America. "This contribution goes a long way in helping those affected by the earthquake a year ago."

(Continued from page 3)

Dr. Jackson, a native of West Columbia, S.C., has a Master of Divinity Degree from the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta and a degree in mathematics from Benedict College. In 2007, Benedict College conferred upon him an Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree.

His awards include the Distinguished Service Award by the Greater Columbia Community Relations Council in 2004; the West Metro Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year in 2005; and the Lifetime Achievement Award by the 100 Black Men of Greater Columbia.

In observance of his 30th Anniversary as pastor, South Carolina Governor Jim Hodges awarded him the Order of the Palmetto, which is the highest honor given by the State of South Carolina on its citizens, according to Dr. Jackson's biographical information.

Dr. Jackson and his wife, Robin, have two children – the Rev. Charles B. Jackson, Jr., pastor of the New Laurel Street Baptist Church in Columbia, and

Candace, a graduate of Duke University School of Law and an associate of Nelson

of us have put our children through major universities, but we have some grandchil-



Banquet crowd moved to their feet during sermon by keynote speaker Dr. Charles B. Jackson of Brookland Baptist Church in Columbia, South Carolina.

Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP. They also have four grandchildren.

Reaching out, especially to help young people, he said, is one of the main features of a difference-maker, whether they are helping encourage social changes or educational systems. "Some

dren and some great-grandchildren coming. There's a difference between disciples - and difference-makers. One's just a face in the crowd, wishy-washy. What we need are more difference-makers who're committed, strong and fortified."



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

HIGHLAND AVENUE WINSTON SALEM NC

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DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

The Director of Music Ministry at First Baptist Church – Highland Avenue (Winston-Salem, NC) is responsible for overseeing the entire music ministry and all music-related functions of the church, to include choirs, instrumentalists and conductors, praise and dance teams and other music-related activities/duties as may be determined in the future.

Ministry Area/Department	Music Department
Position	Director of Music Ministry
Accountable To	Senior Pastor
Ministry Target	Choirs (Adult/Youth/Children), instrumentalists and conductors, praise and dance teams and general congregation
Position Is	Part-time paid employee
Position May Be Filled By	Individual with exceptional music skills
Minimum Maturity Level	Mature Christian
Spiritual Gifts	- A servant's heart - Ability to teach music based on biblical principles
Talents or Abilities Desired	Accomplished: • Pianist • Organist (Renaissance by Allen) • Choir Director • Ability to read music and play by ear • Ability to conduct and play simultaneously
Best Personality Traits	• Creative thinker • Ability to execute plans/ideas • Ability to communicate and motivate all age levels
Passion For	Training/teaching and effectively leading a diverse sacred music program
Requirements	• BA in Music (minimum) • 3-5 years of demonstrated experience in expanding existing adult and children's music programs. These programs should include sacred music of all genres.
Length of Service Commitment	One year minimum
Salary	Salary will be commensurate with experience

OTHER DUTIES:

Make arrangements for music for funerals, weddings, special services, prayer services, etc. and ensuring staff is in place with compensation

INTERESTED APPLICANTS:

Cover letters, resumes with 3 references and transcripts may be sent to:

First Baptist Church – Highland Avenue
Music Search Committee
PO Box 1054
Winston-Salem, NC 27102-1054

ANTICIPATED TIME COMMITMENTS

1. Performance/Preparation: 16-20 hours per week

RESPONSIBILITIES/DUTIES

MINISTER OF MUSIC OR DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY:

1. Rehearse/Conduct/Accompany Chancel Choir
(Thursday weekly rehearsals with 4th Sunday, 8:30 and 11 am worship services)
2. Rehearse/Conduct/Accompany David R. Hedgley Memorial Choir
(Tuesday weekly rehearsals with 3rd Sunday, 8:30 and 11 am worship services)
3. Rehearse/Conduct/Accompany Men's Chorus
(Monday rehearsals of 5th Sunday month with 5th Sunday, 8:30 and 11 am worship services)
4. Rehearse/Conduct/Accompany Combined Choirs
(Tuesday and Thursday rehearsal with 1st Sunday, 9:45 am worship service)
5. Rehearse/Conduct/Accompany Youth, Children's or Tot's Choirs as needed
(Rehearsal Tuesday, Wednesday with 2nd Sunday, 11 am worship service)
6. Conduct at least one workshop/retreat per year
7. Work in conjunction with the ministerial staff to coordinate weekly services (song transitions, improvisation, preludes, postludes, hymns, etc.)
8. Create musical schedule for instrumentalists and choirs (calendar, rehearsals, etc.)
9. Represent music department at all appropriate meetings.
10. Meet jointly with the Senior Pastor and the Music Ministry Committee on a regular basis.
11. Prepare musically and spiritually for all choirs
12. Recruit (musicians, instrumentalists, choir members)
13. Responsible for maintenance and up-keep of all church instruments
14. Oversee paid music department staff and volunteers already in place (including instrumentalists/singers/dancers, etc...)
15. Maintain music library with a strong knowledge of copyright laws
16. Create/maintain music departmental budget
17. Ability to work with sound technicians
18. Possess a working knowledge of music software (i.e., Sibellus, Finale, Noteworthy)

Annual Black History Program

From Press Reports

The Reverend Dr. W.B. Lewis, pastor of the First Cosmopolitan Baptist Church for 47 years, will be honored by the Wake Missionary Baptist Association during its Annual Black History Program on Saturday, Feb. 19.

The program, which is open to the public, will begin at 4 p.m. at First Cosmopolitan Baptist Church, 1515 Crosslink Road in Raleigh. Guest speaker will be the Reverend Carl Waden, pastor of Pleasant Baptist

Church and Union President, Wake Missionary Baptist Association, Inc.

Dr. Lewis, former president of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., was a past Moderator of the Wake Missionary Baptist Association. He was also named to the Women's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention of N.C. Hall of Fame.

Moderator of the Wake Baptist Missionary Association is the Reverend Dr. William T. Newkirk, Sr. For more information, please contact the Association at www.wakemissionarybapt.org.

"Unfinished Business of Civil Rights Movement"

Staff Reports

Raleigh – The 31st Annual Martin Luther King Celebration, held January 14-17, attracted a record number of participants, including an estimated 3,200 people who marched from the State Capital to the Raleigh Memorial Auditorium on Monday, January 17.

"Our 31st celebration was highly successful and on par with others," according to Bruce Lighter, chairman of the MLK Celebration. Carrying MLK-themed signs and posters, many were dressed in Greek-letter sorority and fraternity regalia and represented various organizations, churches and civic groups, he said.

The three-day celebration, presented by the MLK Celebration Committee, Inc., featured various events including a wreath laying cere-

mony at Martin Luther King Gardens, an Youth "Rise Up" Town Hall meeting, Interfaith Prayer Breakfast at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel in Research Triangle Park, an MLK YWCA Racism Study Circle Town Hall at the Community United Church of Christ and a musical celebration at Meymandi Hall.

Guest speakers included the Reverend Dr. Staccato Powell, pastor of Grace AME Zion Church in Raleigh who spoke at the prayer breakfast; the Reverend Dr. Earl C. Johnson, pastor of Martin Street Baptist Church, Raleigh, who delivered the keynote address at the Noon Ecumenical Observance. Others included Charles C. Meeker, Mayor of Raleigh; North Carolina Governor Beverly Perdue; Erin Byrd, Civic Engagement Director, N.C. Justice Center; Zachary Hinton, a senior at Southeast Raleigh High School, and a participant in the Clarence Lightner YMCA Achievers.

Ushers' One-Day Session

The State Ushers' Auxiliary One-Day Session will be held on Saturday, February 26 at Union Baptist Church in Durham, where the Reverend Kenneth R. Hammond is pastor.

Registration opens at 8 a.m. and the session begins at 9 a.m. The cost is \$10.00 per person for adults. The church is located at 904 Roxboro Street.

"We hope to have a good session and have a lot of youth talent involved," said Charles Dunn, president of the Ushers.

"We hope to have about 1,000 ushers from across the state and we've set aside a lot of things to help them in their churches and associations." All ushers are asked to wear their uniforms.

Featured speakers will be the Reverend Marvin T. Clowney, Dean of Ushers, and Hazel Kennedy, youth supervisor.

Churches are asked to contribute \$400 each fiscal year to support the work of the Usher's Auxiliary. Full and/or partial payments will be taken during the February meeting. GBSC fiscal year begins on September 1 and ends August 31 each year.

For more information, please contact the GBSC at (919) 821-7466.

**To all who are loved by God
and called to be saints:
Grace and peace to you
from God our Father
and from the
Lord Jesus Christ.
Romans. 1:7**

IN MEMORIAM

The GBSC recognizes the following Baptist family members who recently passed away.

**Dr. Mansel P. McCleave
(1926-2010)**

The Reverend Dr. Mansel Philip McCleave, former pastor of First Missionary Baptist Church, departed this life on November 25, 2010. His funeral service was held on Friday, December 3, 2010 at First Missionary Baptist in Siler City.

Dr. McCleave, son of the late Reverend Dr. Allen F. and Annie Lewis McCleave, was born on August 7, 1926 in Rock Hill, South Carolina. In 1927, he moved with his family to Liberty, N.C. where his father became the pastor of the Edwards Grove Missionary Baptist Church.

He received his education in the public schools of Chatham County, graduating from Chatham County Training School in Siler City. At 16, he enrolled at Hampton Institute (now University). His career at Hampton was cut short by the World War II Armed Forces draft. After a two-year tour of duty, he enrolled at N.C. A&T State University where he earned both the Bachelor and Master of Science degree.

Dr. McCleave served as an instructor of Plant Sciences at A&T for 34 years, teaching on the undergraduate and graduate levels. He did additional studies at UNC-Chapel Hill, North Carolina State University and Cornell University. He was awarded the Doctor of Divinity Degree from Friendship College and the Doctor of Humane Letters Degree from Apex School of Theology.

Affiliated with more than 20 organiza-

tion, he was a preacher of the Gospel, an outstanding leader and spokesperson, an educator, businessman, writer (of four publications), a mentor and friend to many. He served three tenures totally 30 years at Edwards Grove. He was also pastor of First Missionary Baptist Church for 18 years.

He leaves to cherish his memory his nephews, Charles A. Brown of Atlanta and Victor M. Brown of Birmingham. His sisters (Wilma and Lilly) and his brother (Allen) predeceased him.

**Reverend James L. Stowe
(1924-2010)**

The Reverend James L. "J.L." Stowe, of Post Oak Place in Salisbury, departed this life on Sunday, Dec. 26, 2010 at Rowan Regional Medical Center.

Rev. Stowe was born March 28, 1924, to the late Samuel L. and Nannie Sadler



Stowe in Clover, S.C. He attended Clover High School and J.C. Price High School. His collegiate training was received at Moody Bible College and Livingstone College's Hood Theological Seminary.

At an early age, he accepted Jesus Christ and became a faithful member of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Clover, S.C. He was a veteran of World War II, having served in the U.S. Army as an Assistant Chaplain from 1943 to 1946.

Upon moving to Salisbury with his wife of 63 years, Sarah Amanda Currence, he became a member of Gethsemane Baptist Church and was licensed and ordained by the pastor, Rev.

W.T. Bryant. Rev. Stowe's pastorates were at Boxwood Baptist Church, Mocksville; Henderson Grove Baptist Church, Salisbury; Union Baptist Church, Lexington; and Yadkin Grove Baptist Church, Salisbury.

In 1984, he became the pastor of his home church, Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Church. During his pastorate there, the church's membership grew to more than 1,000 members, prompting the need for a new sanctuary and educational building.

In 2004, after spreading the gospel for more than 54 years, Rev. Stowe retired. He was later named Pastor Emeritus. Pastor Stowe was also retired from the W.G. Hefner VA Medical Center.

Rev. Stowe was preceded in death by two sons, James L. Stowe, Jr. and George B. Stowe; his two brothers, John C. Stowe and Emanuel Stowe; and two sisters, Elizabeth Sadler and Nina Stowe B. Howard.

Those left to cherish his memory and legacy include his wife, Sarah C. Stowe of the home; children – Robert Louis Jackson (Cassandra), Clover, S.C., and the Rev. Sherry S. Ford (John) and Jamye M.C. Stowe, Javan D. Stowe (Michele) and Tarshia N.S. Stowe, all of Salisbury; three sisters, Elizabeth Stowe Johnson (Charles), Esther Stowe Davis (Nathaniel) of Clover, S.C., and Martha Stowe Tate (William), Gastonia; 14 grandchildren; sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

The Baptist Informer

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Voice of 500,000 Baptists

Rev. Haywood T. Gray, Executive Secretary-Treasurer

E.O. Johnson, Interim Managing Editor

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(USPS 042-680)

Health Concerns for Triangle Elderly (Beware of Winter Dangers)

From Press Release

Durham, N.C. - There is no other way to say it – it's brutally cold outside across the Triangle. While severe winter weather and plummeting temperatures may mean little more than extra time scraping windshields and one more layer of clothes for most people, they are serious concerns for local seniors living on their own.

"As we work with local seniors living on their own each day, we see the additional stress cold weather can bring," said Frank Coker, owner of Senior Helpers of the Triangle. "It is absolutely vital that families take precautions to keep seniors safe through the winter months because many times, seniors simply don't or can't take the necessary steps on their own."

Senior Helpers of the Triangle, a leading local in-home senior care provider, is urging

families across the area to take extra precautions to ensure that senior loved ones and elderly family members are safe and secure during this extended stretch of cold weather.

Some basic physiological differences make seniors much more prone to health problems related to the cold. Older adults have slower metabolisms, so their bodies don't generate heat as quickly as younger people do to withstand colder environments. Many seniors also suffer from poor circulation, meaning their bodies struggle to pump blood to their arms, legs, hands and feet. This makes them more easily susceptible to hypothermia, frostbite and other common cold weather conditions.

"Taking a few extra minutes to check in on elderly neighbors and family members can make a huge difference," Coker said. "As the mercury continues to fall, make sure senior loved ones on their own have all the help they need to stay safe, happy and healthy this winter."

The following is a list of ideas and precautions for seniors during the winter months:

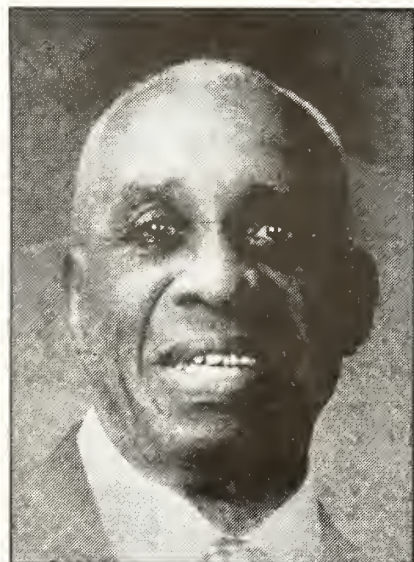
Senior Helpers' Winter Weather Prep List for Triangle Families:

- Keep thermostat in senior's home between 68 and 70 degrees – this may mean a small additional expense, but it's a necessary one.
- Use electric space heaters – these are an economical way to heat a small space, such as a bedroom or den. Use heaters with modern safety features, like an automatic shut-off. Be sure to keep the heater at a safe distance from furniture, curtains, bedding, etc.
- Choose clothes wisely – dress for warmth during the day by layering loose-fitting, lightweight garments. Tight clothes and long underwear can actually restrict blood flow if they do not fit correctly.
- Extra blankets on the bed – a helpful tip that works to trap warmth between layers.
- Mittens instead of gloves – mittens keep hands and fingers warmer than gloves because the fingers to touch each other, generating warmth.
- Eat plenty, eat right – Body heat is generated by burning calories. Without a proper steady diet, the body runs out of fuel.
- Check rubber tips on canes or walkers – If they are old and worn, these tips can become slippery on snow, ice or wet surfaces and cause slipping or falls.

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One-Day Session at Galilee Baptist

The Congress of Christian Education will convene its One-Day Session on Saturday, February, 12 at Galilee Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, where the Reverend Dr. Nathan E. Scovens is pastor.

Registration opens at 8 a.m. and the cost is \$10 per person. The session begins at 9 a.m. at the church, located at 4129 Northampton Drive.

Featured speakers will be Dr. Frank J. Byrd, President of the Congress, and the Reverend A. Jamale Johnson, Dean of Congress.

"The one day session is always a great fellowship and a time of teaching and learning," said the Reverend A. Jamale Johnson, Dean of the Congress

of Christian Education and pastor of Mt. Sinai Baptist Church in Fayetteville. "We encourage deans from across the state, Sunday school superintendents, teachers, youth and children's workers and missionaries to take advantage of the curriculum for this session."

Session classes will include: "Pastoring Men," "Using Technology in the Classroom," "Reaching Young Adults," "Transformational Church," "The Churches' Musical Ministry," "Organizing a Step Team in Your Church," "Biblical Basis for Praise Dance Ministry," "Spiritual Gifts in I Corinthians 12," "Faithful Preaching."

Instructors for the Session are Dr. Ricky Banks, the Rev. Anthonette Wright; Ms. Lula Gainey; Ms. Dianne Newell; the Rev. Christopher Stackhouse; Ms. Cynthia Moore; Dr. Terry Thomas; the Rev. Delores

Redmon; the Rev. David Eggleston; Mr. Shaun Mayes; Mrs. Letitia Myles. Churches are asked to contribute \$400 each fiscal year to support the work of the Congress. Churches may also contribute the full amount or make partial contributions at the February session. The General Baptist State Convention fiscal year begins on September 1 and ends on August 31 each year.

WHAT: Congress of Christian Education One-Day Session

WHEN: Saturday, Feb. 12, 2011

WHERE: Galilee Baptist Church, 4129 Northampton Drive, Winston-Salem, N.C.

INFO: GBSC Headquarters at (919) 821-7466.

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INFORMER**

603 S. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601
USPS 042-680



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